THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Due to the all round increase in the cost of inputs, the present cost of generation & purchase of electricity by DESU is substantially more than the average realisation. It is, therefore, necessary that the DESU may, with the approval of Delhi Electric Supply Committee and Municipal Corporation of Delhi, consider rationalisation of the power tariff in Delhi, so as to ensure financial viability of DESU and consequent proper supply of electricity in the National Capital. So far no decision to rationalise the electricity rates has been taken by the afore mentioned authorities.

Doctor patient ratio

57. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the doctor-patient ratio in the country at present;

(b) how this ratio compares with that in counries like U.K., USSR, Japan etc.; and

(c) what effects are proposed to be made in increase the number of doctors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RASHEED MASOOD): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Medical Council of India, the doctor-population ratio in the country is 1:2387. This ratio compares very unfavourably with the ratio obtaining in developed countries like U.K., USSR and Japan;

Efforts are being made to augment the availability of doctors by opening medical institutions and also to improve patient care by establishment of more hospitals in the Government and private sector.

Shortage of Power in Uttar Pradesh

58. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent of shortage of power being experienced in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have set up any panel to suggest measures to tackle the problem of power shortage in the State;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what measures are being adopted to improve the power supply position in the State?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) During 1989-90, Uttar Pradesh faced a power shortage of 10.6 per cent.

(b) to (d) Government is continuously monitoring the power supply position in the State and is taking steps to bridge the gap between demand and availability subject to overall availability of power in the grid. Some of the measures taken by the Government to increase the availability of power in the State include expeditious commissioning of new capacities, optimum utilisation of existing capacities reduction of T&D lossess, assistance from neighbouring States/Systems to the extent possible, maximising generation from existing capacities and intensive monitoring of the grid operations an coordination of power supply.

Tuticorin Airport

59. SHRI J. S. RAJU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been spent so far on the Tuticorin Airport; and

(b) by when this airport will be ready for operation?